



**May 2012**

**Volume 8, Issue 4**

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## From the Editor

de W7MWF

We're in the final countdown stage for the upcoming Field Day 2012, to be held June 23rd and 24th adjacent to the Western State Hospital in Steilacoom. May has seen lots of activity around the clubhouse including training and preparations for field day events. This will be my first-ever participation in Field Day, and I'm anxious to visit all of the stations that the club has available and to familiarize myself with some of the other modes that I haven't yet used.

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By the time this issue of the Bark hits the newsstand, there will only be a couple of weeks remaining to place your bids for the Members-Only Auction Items. See the inventory and procedure on Pages 6 and 7 in this issue. The deadline is Noon, Saturday, June 16, 2012. Like voting - bid early, bid often.

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Our special feature this month focuses on Bob K7MXE and his longtime participation in the Annual MARS Crossband Communications Test. As a young Marine in Viet Nam in 1970, I had the chance once to make a MARS call. I appreciated the hard work and commitment of a ham operator in the US and his patience in helping my mom figure out that she had to say "over" before I could talk to her.

### **General Membership Meeting 11 April 2012 Minutes**

The 11 April General Membership meeting was held at the Pierce County Library Administration Building. Vice President Casey Hicks WY7V called the meeting to order at 7:30 PM.

Officers and board members present:

Vice President	Casey Hicks WY7V
Secretary	Larry Watson KD4VOM
Treasurer	Bob Purdom AD7LJ
Board	Nick Winter K7MO
Board	Al Ferguson N7OMS
Board	Bruce Hanson WE7P
Board	James Mendenhall KE6WHN
Board	Glen Galati KA7BOJ

A sign in sheet with the names of members and guests is attached to the original copy of these minutes. There were 42 names on the attendance roster.

**PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE:** Was led by Vice President Casey WY7V

**INTRODUCTIONS:** Self introductions were completed.

**ILLNESS OR SILENT KEY:** None Noted

**CORRESPONDENCE:** Larry KD4VOM reported the usual correspondence;

- QSL Cards
- Membership Renewals
- Bank Statements
- Electric Radio
- DNR Hazardous Materials Letter

**TREASURER:** RCT Financial Report made available

### **COMMITTEE REPORTS:**

***-Training:*** Next Technician Class will be June 9-10.

***-RCT Picnic:*** Casey WY7V reminded all that the Spanaway Park Shelter has been reserved for the second Saturday in June.

***-Field Day:*** Al Ferguson N7OMS reviewed the current planning for this year's Field Day. Steve AD7VL will be unable to manage the Get On The Air station so we are looking for a GOTA manager. Al would also like to find someone to step up to the Amateur Television station operation and perhaps Satellite contact. The Field Day kitchen could use some budding chefs to help Jan Gilbertson K7HTU. Bill AD7QI has a spare radio and could possibly do a solar powered operation.

## Radio Club of Tacoma

N7OMS again solicited volunteers to step up to handle:

Friday; the Setup and security.

Saturday Overview operations and security; and

Sunday teardown, return to storage and police up...

Field Day Operations Practice sessions: A couple of orientation/training sessions are planned with Randy WB4SPB and Joe K7ZG to help those who wish to learn the reporting and logging process.

Randy WB4SPB will be helping folks learn the contesting and logging process during the Georgia QSO party on April 14th at the Clubhouse, while Joe K7ZG and Mike W7XTZ will be available to help new hams during the April 15th Rookie Roundup session. Both events will be conducted at the RCT Clubhouse.

### **ANNOUNCEMENTS:**

Communications Academy: Coming up April 14th and 15th.

Special Meetings: There will be a Generator Replacement and Bylaws draft review meeting on 18 April at 6:30 at the Clubhouse

Bark Editor: Mike Finnie W7MWF is picking up the helm at the Club's BARK newsletter as Gary WG7X retires from the job he has done well for six years... Welcome aboard Mike.

**PROGRAM:** Frank AC7JY arranged for an outstanding DXpedition presentation on the VP80RK operation in Antarctica. The program was presented by Michael Mraz N6MZ who was a participant in the DXpedition.

**SHOW AND TELL:** None reported

**TUNING AND TRAFFIC:** There are several HF events scheduled this weekend, including several Titanic anniversary stations...

**DOOR PRIZES:** After several declines and re-draws, Bob Bosnyak AD7WU went home with a roll of coax transmission line.

**RAFFLE PRIZE:** The scanner antenna prize was taken by Leonard KA7NWF.



**Annual Kirkreit Picnic  
June 9, 2012  
11:30 am - 2:00 pm  
Spanaway Park**

## Logger's Bark May 2012

The meeting was adjourned at 8:38 pm.

### **General Membership Meeting**

#### **25 April 2012 Minutes**

The 25 April General Membership meeting was held at the Pierce County Library Administration Building. . President Gary McAdams WG7X called the meeting to order at 7:28 PM.

Officers and board members present:

President	Gary McAdams WG7X
Vice President	Casey Hicks WY7V
Secretary	Larry Watson KD4VOM
Treasurer	Bob Purdom AD7LJ
Board	Al Ferguson N7OMS
Board	Bruce Hanson WE7P
Board	James Mendenhall KE6WHN

A sign in sheet with the names of members and guests is attached to the original copy of these minutes. There were 47 names on the attendance roster.

**PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE:** Was led by President Gary WG7X

**INTRODUCTIONS:** Self introductions were completed.

**ILLNESS OR SILENT KEY:** Larry KD4VOM reported the passing of Charles Souter KA7HJN on 10 April in Tyler Texas. Chuck was a longtime member of the Radio Club of Tacoma.

**CORRESPONDENCE:** Larry KD4VOM reported the usual correspondence;

- QSL Cards
- Membership Renewals
- Bank Statements
- Phone Bill

**TREASURER:** Bob AD7LJ circulated the Field Day Pig Donation bank

### **COMMITTEE REPORTS:**

**-Training:** Next Technician Class will be June 9-10.

**-RCT Picnic:** Casey WY7V reminded all that the Spanaway Park Shelter has been reserved for the second Saturday in June.

**-Field Day:** Al Ferguson N7OMS reports Field Day planning is coming along nicely. Al noted that Jan K7HTU who is heading up the Field Day Kitchen could use some help with the cooking. Charles, KD7UAN who handles the VHF/UHF/6 Meter operations reminded us all that he actually had a pileup on 6

meters last year, and could use some operating help this year.

Al circulated a signup sheet for folks to volunteer for the setup, kitchen, operations and teardown. N7OMS again solicited volunteers to step up to handle.

### **ANNOUNCEMENTS:**

-ARDF Bunny Hunt: Coming up May 12th near Silverdale.

-RCT Special Service Club: President Gary WG7X announced the club's receipt at this year's Communications Academy of the ARRL's Special Service Club designation for our club.

**PROGRAM:** BALUNS/UNUNS; WHAT ARE THEY AN HOW DO THEY WORK? Presented by Bill Wright, AD7QI

Bill presented a detailed treatment of BALUNS/UNUNS, how they work, where to use them, the vari-

ous kinds and cores, and several practical demonstrations of their performance together with BALUN testing techniques.

**SHOW AND TELL:** None reported

**TUNING AND TRAFFIC:** None reported

**DOOR PRIZES:** Rich Patrick KR7W picked up the pocket Microsoft pen door prize.

**RAFFLE PRIZE:** Casey WV7Y was the winner of the Radio Shack power and swr meter

The meeting was adjourned at 8:43 pm.

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### **Going Portable**

#### Radio Operations in World War I

World War I saw many innovations and improvements in armor, aviation, and naval operations. The newfangled wireless contraptions also saw their first usage in theaters of combat, on land, in the air, and at sea. One of the widely-used radios was the packset Marconi, which could be mounted on packsaddles, or, as seen below, configured for use as a motorcycle sidecar attachment. Photos used with permission of NZART - The New Zealand Association of Radio Transmitters.



**2012 Armed Forces Day Crossband Military/Amateur Radio Communication Test**  
**May 12, 2012**

Story and QSL Cards courtesy Bob Hesenberg K7MXE



Armed Forces day crossband communications

K7MXE was able to work these stations

NWVC ex USS LST 325 Evansville IN  
 AAZ Army MARS Ft Huachuca AZ  
 NNN0ASF Navy MARS Bennington KS  
 NNOCQQ ex USS Midway San Diego CA  
 NWKJ ex USS Yorktown CV10 Gilbert SC  
 WUG-2B Corp of Engineers Memphis TN  
 AIR Joint Base Andrews Andrews MD  
 AIR2 174 Fighter Wing Syracuse NY  
 AGA4AR Arnold AFB Arnold TN  
 NBL Navy Sub Base Groton CT  
 AAC Army MARS Lexington KY



All contacts on or near the 20 meter band using USB





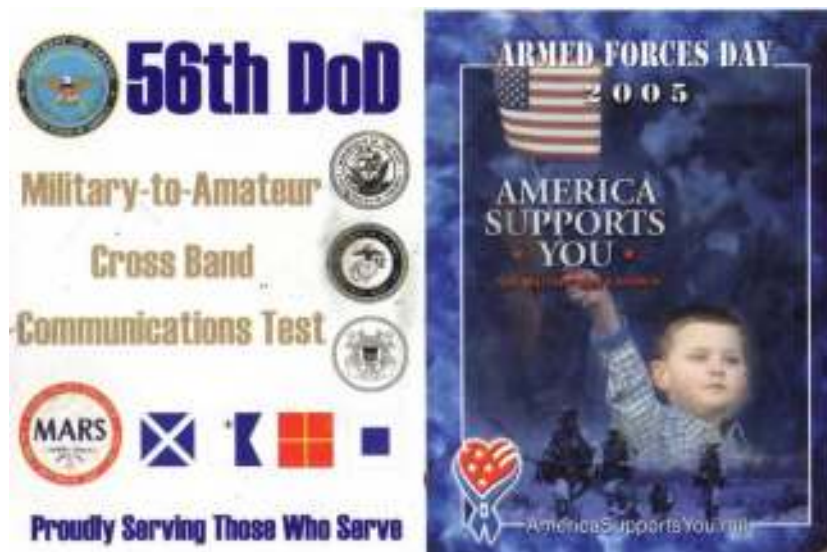


Stations I did not work include, Navy station Whidbey WA, Schofield Barracks Hawaii and the Pentagon in DC. I did not hear these stations this year or any year. For the rate of contact it came out to one station every half hour, not a contest.

This event is not on Armed Forces day because of a conflict with Dayton ham fest. QSL cards will arrive over the next year or so and I did get as many as three in one envelope and not from the BURO.

Give it a shot next year and remember not to transmit on the military freq as someone always does.

Bob K7MXE



## **RCT MEMBERS ONLY AUCTION**

**May 19<sup>th</sup> to June 16<sup>th</sup> 2012**

**This auction is open to members of the Radio Club of Tacoma only. All RCT members are eligible. Auction will begin at noon on the 19<sup>th</sup> of May 2012. Auction will end at noon on the 16<sup>th</sup> of June 2012.**

**Bids must be placed at the RCT Clubhouse only.**

**A bidding note and envelope will be provided there.**

**Bids must be marked clearly , sealed in the provided envelope and deposited in the "BID BOX" at the Clubhouse. Minimum bids will be indicated.**

**All bids will remain in the locked box until the end time when the RCT Property Management Team opens the box to determine and announce the winners.**

**Each item has been inspected and tested by the PMT and determined to be in "working " condition. This is not a guarantee or warranty. If there is an issue with an item, we will indicate so. All purchases are final with no returns. The items will be on display at the Clubhouse each Saturday throughout the auction for your inspection or testing (at the Clubhouse only with PMT supervision).**

**Enjoy the Auction and good luck bidding.**

**Frank Palmer AC7JY RCT Property Manager**

**The RADIO CLUB OF TACOMA needs your donations...**

**IF YOU HAVE UNWANTED OR UNNEEDED AMATEUR RADIO OR RELATED EQUIPMENT.**

**DONATIONS PLAY A BIG PART IN FUNDING THE OPERATION OF RCT. PLEASE CONSIDER DONATING IT TO THE CLUB**

**If you have something to donate Contact Frank Palmer AC7JY, Property Management Team Leader**

1. Kenwood Power Supply PS-30 \$67.50



2. Kenwood TS-430 HF Transceiver \$334.00  
Kenwood PS-430 Power Supply



3. Icom AH-4 Auto Tuner Like new \$150.00



4. Super Antenna MP-1 Like new \$37.00



5. Icom IC-706 MKIIG \$500.00



6. Rohn Spalding Antenna sections (3) \$30.00





June 23 & 24, 2012  
Western State Hospital Grounds  
9601 Steilacoom Blvd. SW  
Tacoma, Washington

Where will all the cool people be the 3rd weekend in June? Why at the W7DK field day. Again being held in the open field South East of Western State at 9601 Steilacoom Blvd SW, Tacoma Wa. If you need directions, please check the W7DK website at [w7dk.org](http://w7dk.org). There is also other information listed there as well. If you have not seen the Website this is a good time to visit. Joe K7ZG has put into effect many changes to give the site an all new look.

As I write this we are 6A that means 10, 15, 20 CW, 20 SSB, 40 CW, 80 SSB/CW will be covered. We have a UHF/VHF station and the last minute addition of a GOTA station. Should be opportunities for many members to spend some time in front of the radio's. This is a good time to see how others setup to operate in the field.

There have been several opportunities to receive training in preparation for FD and members have taken advantage of this. We have some new faces that will be running stations with some seasoned helpers to get them over the pot holes.

We will have stations running CW and SSB and of particular interest for some will be the 15 meter all mode station that will be capable of doing some of the digital modes. I understand that at least a couple of members will be doing

video filming so you might want to get the hair cut. You could be going viral on U-Tube!

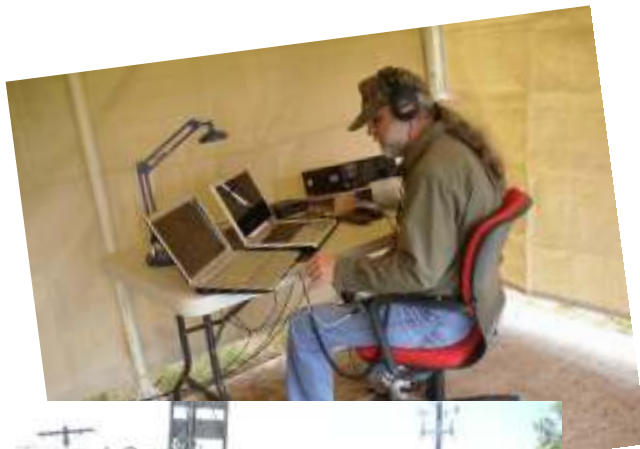
We will of course keep track of QSO's and take any extra points we can get but the main goal will be to get the air waves humming with the sounds of W7DK members learning and growing in this great hobby of ours.

It all starts at 0900 hours Friday the 22nd at the club house. We have lots to load up to take to the field. Setup of stations and kitchen will begin at 1100 hours and I understand there may be a simple lunch available for the worker bees. Saturday at 1100 hours begins the contest till 1100 hours Sunday. At that time we will need lots of hands to break it all down and transported back to the club house.

Field Day also has a social side which comes out around the kitchen area with the Saturday Potluck starting around 1800 hours. Bring a side and enjoy a burger made to order by the DK chefs. Many stations will operate through the night so we have the Loggers Breakfast to fuel them for the last few hours of the contest and break down. There are many other activities that will be going on but I don't want to give away too much. You just have to come out and see for yourselves. 73 de Al N7OMS

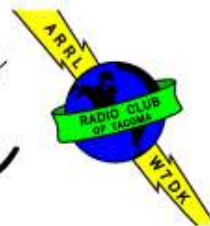


Field Day 2011  
Photo Gallery courtesy AI N7OMS





## The Radio Club of Tacoma's *Logger's Bark*



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### Club Officers

President: Gary McAdams WG7X 253-984-0868 email to [wg7x@w7dk.org](mailto:wg7x@w7dk.org)

Vice Pres: Casey Hicks WY7V email to [wy7v@w7dk.org](mailto:wy7v@w7dk.org)

Secretary: Larry Watson KD4VOM email to [kd4vom@w7dk.org](mailto:kd4vom@w7dk.org)

Treasurer: Bob Purdom AD7LJ email to [ad7lj@w7dk.org](mailto:ad7lj@w7dk.org)

### 5 Board Members (listed in no particular order)

Al Ferguson, N7OMS email to [n7oms@w7dk.org](mailto:n7oms@w7dk.org)

James Mendenhall KE6WHN email to [ke6whn@w7dk.org](mailto:ke6whn@w7dk.org)

Glen Galati KA7BOJ email to [ka7boj@w7dk.org](mailto:ka7boj@w7dk.org)

Nick Winter K7MO email to [k7mo@w7dk.org](mailto:k7mo@w7dk.org)

Bruce Hanson WE7P email to [we7p@w7dk.org](mailto:we7p@w7dk.org)

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### Logger's Bark Staff

Editor in Chief: "Stop the Presses!!" Mike Finnie, W7MWF email to [editor@w7dk.org](mailto:editor@w7dk.org)

Printer/Publisher: "Start the Presses" John Clarke, AC7WW, 253-475-5854

Reporters: The members of the Radio Club of Tacoma...

Send articles to: [editor@w7dk.org](mailto:editor@w7dk.org) or Bark, 1506 N Stevens St, Tacoma, WA 98406

**The Fine Print:** The Logger's Bark is published once a month for the membership of The Radio Club of Tacoma or interested ham radio enthusiasts. The Bark is delivered by PDF file on the club's website: [www.w7dk.org](http://www.w7dk.org). If a condensed paper copy is needed... then let the Printer/Publisher listed above know.

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**Membership Info:** FULL (licensed) and ASSOCIATE (non licensed) is \$30 per calendar year. \$25 for Licensed Seniors (65 and over). Licensed family members at same address pay \$15 each for the first two and are free for the third, fourth, and so on. Fulltime students, licensed or non licensed, up to age 25 are \$15 per year. Note: fees are applicable for the calendar year: Jan to Dec. Lifetime membership is 20 times the yearly fee you are eligible for.. Lifetime memberships are calculated based on the FULL and ASSOCIATE rates.

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## Radio Club Repeaters

Central Tacoma: 147.280 + PL=103.5    Central Tacoma Packet: 144.970

Crawford Mountain (SE Thurston County): 147.380 + PL=103.5

Central Tacoma: 440.625 + PL=103.5

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**Remember - For the latest and most current information on events and activities, visit the Radio Club of Tacoma Website [w7dk.org](http://w7dk.org). Be sure to enroll as a member to see all the info.**

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***The Loggers Bark***  
**Radio Club of Tacoma**  
**PO Box 11188**  
**Tacoma, WA 98411**

**To RCT Member:**



# June 2012 Events

**CLUB MEETINGS:** Second and fourth Wednesdays of the month at the Library Administration Building 112th and Waller Road. The club meets at 7:30 PM. Everyone is invited to attend.

**Board Meeting:** First Wednesday of the month at the RCT clubhouse. All members are welcome to attend .

**Bark Deadline:** Last week-end of each month. Please submit articles by that time!

**Support our club:** Attend meetings, volunteer, Elmer!

**Check into the weekly two meter net:** Tuesdays at 7:30 PM on the club repeater on 147.280 MHz

**Check into the weekly 10 meter net:** Sundays at 8:00 PM on 28.375 MHz .